



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Koji Yamaya, et al. **Examiner:** Matthew John Kasztejna
Serial No: 10/721,518 **Art Unit:** 3739
Filed: November 25, 2003 **Docket:** 17280
For: ENDOSCOPE APPARATUS **Conf. No.:** 5316

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Sir:

We, Koji Yamaya, Koji Nakamoto and Hisao Yabe declare that:

1. We are the only inventors of the subject matter described and claimed in independent claims 1-4 of the above-identified patent application.
2. We are the only inventors and authors of U.S. Patent No. 6,824,509 which has been cited against independent claims 1-4 of the above-identified application in an Official Action dated September 16, 2005.
3. In addition to us, there is one other co-inventor listed in the present application: Harubiko Ueno. While Mr. Ueno is a co-inventor of the above-identified application, he did not contribute to the claimed subject matter of independent claims 1-4 of the above-identified application.
4. Mr. Ueno's contribution to the claimed subject matter of the above-identified application is to one or more of the dependent claims 5-9.

5. We declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment; or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated: Dec. 20, 2005

Koji Yamaya
Koji Yamaya

Dated: Dec. 17, 2005

Koji Nakamoto
Koji Nakamoto

Dated: Dec. 21, 2005

Hisao Yabe
Hisao Yabe